

FISCAL NOTE
SB 18 - HB 16

January 29, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Extends the early voting period for state elections from 20 days to 27 days and extends the required notice of the change of office hours prior to the election from 25 days to 30 days.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures* - \$728,000


Assumptions:

- According to the 2000 federal census, there are four large counties (population in excess of 200,000), 41 medium-sized counties (population between 30,000 and 200,000) and 50 small counties (population less than 30,000) in Tennessee.
- The average cost to extend early voting in a large county is estimated to be approximately \$75,000 ($\$75,000 \times 4 = \$300,000$); \$8,000 in a medium-sized county ($\$8,000 \times 41 = \$328,000$); and \$2,000 in a small county ($\$2,000 \times 50 = \$100,000$).
- Costs to local governments to extend the early voting period for state elections for one week would include additional personnel, supplies and rent (in some instances).
- The increase in local government expenditures is an annualized cost. The total increase over a two-year election cycle is \$1,526,000.
- There will not be a significant number of additional voters. No additional staff or voting machines will be required due to additional voters.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director